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***NEWS From:***

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**Congressman Mike Honda**

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**FIFTEENTH DISTRICT - CALIFORNIA**

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**Honda Earns Coveted Slot on House Transportation Committee**

**San Jose, CA—** After intense competition among new members for slots on key committees, U.S. Congressman Mike Honda (D-San Jose) today secured a slot on the powerful Transportation and Infrastructure Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives. The Transportation Committee has jurisdiction over civil aviation, maritime law, ground transportation, water resources development, water resources conservation and management and hazardous waste clean up.

**“Throughout his career, Mike Honda has led the effort to improve the quality of life for residents of the South Bay by fighting for important proposals such as increased light rail, enhanced highway safety and bringing BART to San Jose,”** said Rep. James Oberstar, the ranking Democrat on the Transportation Committee. **“His leadership and experience are a welcome addition to the Transportation Committee.”**

**“It is essential that we address the twin issues of traffic congestion and air pollution so that our South Bay communities and businesses continue to flourish,”** said Honda. **“I look forward to working with my friends in state and local government in implementing a long-term transportation vision that ensures that our communities are livable and that our local economy remains an economic engine for the region and the rest of the nation.”**

As a member of the Committee, Honda plans to continue his efforts to empower communities to combat urban sprawl and traffic congestion by increasing access to public transportation. Honda will also continue his strong support of efforts to reduce automobile emissions by pushing for tax credits and other governmental support for the development of alternative fuel sources and zero-emission vehicles.

**“It is an honor to follow in the footsteps of my friend, recently-confirmed Transportation Secretary, Norm Mineta, who served as chairman of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee during his tenure as a Member of Congress representing California’s 15<sup>th</sup> District,”** continued Honda. **“I look forward to working with my colleagues and our new Transportation Secretary to make real progress on the many issues we are facing in transportation.”**